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# City of Fairfax NEWS RELEASE

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **2014 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award Brian Knapp**

**FAIRFAX, Va.** — Over 350 delegates from around the state gathered last week at the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society held December 6-9 at The Homestead in Hot Springs, VA. The conference is education focused and provides an opportunity for recreation and park professionals to discuss areas of common interest as well as receive continuing education units.

Highlighting each year's conference is a formal presentation of awards. This prestigious state-wide program honors individuals, agencies and organizations throughout Virginia who have demonstrated excellence in any of several areas during the previous calendar year. Over ninety applications were received vying for awards in 13 different categories, including Best New Program, Best New Special Event, Best New Facility and promotional awards for traditional and specialty media. Judged by a jury of its peers, the Society paid tribute to Brian Knapp – City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation and Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, selected for the Distinguished Volunteer Service Award.

Brian Knapp has been a member of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society since 1999 and has served on the City of Fairfax, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) since 1999. He spent most of these years as the Chairman of PRAB from 2002 to 2010 and 2013 to present. Mr. Knapp is also the PRAB representative to NOVA Parks since 2007, a 50+ year old authority that is made up of six jurisdictions in Northern Virginia including the City of Fairfax. Since 2011, Mr. Knapp has served as the Chairman of NOVA Parks and led both agencies to excel in the delivery of comprehensive, quality and award winning parks and services.

Mr. Knapp has volunteered countless hours for many initiatives in the City of Fairfax in an effort to advance the City's ability to provide world-class services, facilities and parks for recreational opportunities. Without his volunteer efforts, the City could not have accomplished all that it has nor paid others to do what he did.

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*(2014 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award - Brian Knapp continued)*

“The excellence of the award winning projects was evident and we offer our congratulations to each winner for their outstanding contributions to the profession and their community,” said VRPS President Art Thatcher.

“Entries in every population category, from around the state, allow us to recognize the best in our business while raising the standards and quality of programs, facilities and events in every region.”

The mission of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society is to unite all professionals, students, and interested lay persons engaged in the field of recreation, parks, and other leisure services in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For more information on the Society contact the state office at (804) 730-9447 or visit them on the web at [www.vrps.com](http://www.vrps.com).

For more information about City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation contact (703) 385-7853.